

STATE OF TENNESSEE BOARD OF PAROLE

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August 11, 2015

Judiciary and Government Joint Subcommittee Government Operations Tennessee General Assembly 6 Legislative Plaza Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Chairwoman Beavers:

In preparation for our upcoming meeting with the Judiciary and Government Joint Subcommittee, I wanted to communicate a bit of information to you. As you are aware, the March 2014 <u>Board of Parole Follow-Up Report</u> recognized that, "with few exceptions the Board has complied_with state law regarding hearing decisions".

T.C.A. § 40-28-505(b), as well as Board of Parole policy, requires that offenders, officials, victims and other interested parties receive a parole hearing notice within 30 days of the scheduled parole hearing date. Parole revocation, rescission, and probable cause hearing notices must be received within 3 days of the scheduled hearing date.

At our last hearing on September 23, 2014 the committee expressed a particular interest in knowing that notifications are sent in a timely manner to victims. Therefore, I directed our Internal Auditor to assure that when he audits notification compliance, he work closely with our Victim Services Director to include hearings in which victims have registered. Since that time he has selected a random sampling of twenty (20) recent cases each month, all of which include victims. Implementing this routine has greatly increased our sampling. Furthermore, our Information Systems (IS) staff has made improvements in our automated notification system to further enhance full compliance. We are therefore reassured that the proper systems are in place and that the notifications are going out in a timely manner.

Along with Executive Director David Liner, I am looking forward to seeing you and further discussing these findings at your Wednesday, August 19, 2015 committee meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Sincerely,

Richard Montgomery, Chairman

Cc: Vice-Chairman Ragan